*Salt Depot, Alleppey.*

486. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that there is a serious complaint among the merchants that the foreign salt imported at Alleppey contains much sand;

(*b*) whether they will make necessary arrangements for the inspection of salt now in the Salt Depot, Alleppey; and

(*c*) whether all the merchants can go and purchase salt from the Salt Depot?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No complaints have been received from the salt merchants that the foreign salt sold from the depot contains sand.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

(*c*) All *bona fide* salt merchants can purchase salt from the depot.

*Coir mat and mattings.*

487. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware:

(*a*) that coir mats and mattings manufactured here are being consumed in foreign countries; and

(*b*) that the mat and matting industries here have to face keen competition in foreign countries, as some of the foreign countries have begun to manufacture coir mats and mattings?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) Almost the whole of the coir mats and matting manufactured in Travancore is exported. It is understood that mats and matting are produced in some countries of Europe and America.

*Particulars re Industries of the State.*

488. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names of the chief industries that are in existence in the State at present (14-11-1928);

(*b*) the number of factories or places for each of these industries; and

(*c*) the number of coolies and other employés working in each of these industries?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The member is referred to pages 114 to 127 of the *Statistics of Travancore* (9th issue).

*Oil-mill industry in the State.*

489. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the oil-mill industry here is deteriorating day by day;

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